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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Thomas J. Bachinski et al.
Application No. : 09/406,575 Confirmation No.: 1763
Filed : September 24, 1999
For : MEDICAL GRAFTING CONNECTORS AND
FASTENERS
Group Art Unit : 3738
Examiner : Paul B. Prebilic

New York, New York 10020
July 13, 2004

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

A two-month extension of time in which to respond to the Office Action dated February 13, 2004 for the above-referenced patent application is respectfully requested. A check in the amount of \$420.00 for a two-month extension is enclosed herewith.

In response to the Office Action dated February 13, 2004, please amend the above-referenced patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 4 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 30 of this paper.